DONEGAL VOLUNTEER CORPS

Organisational frequently asked questions

1. Why set up the volunteer corps?

The notion of a county-wide volunteer corps is based on a pilot programme established by South County Dublin Volunteer Centre. However, the idea became more focused during the recent bad weather and emergency events in Donegal, when many volunteers expressed an interest in "doing something" to help out in their community but were unable to find a formal way of being involved. Also, with 2011 being the European Year of Volunteering, we are hoping to create project in County Donegal that will have a lasting effect after the year.

2. Who has responsibility for the Corps?

The Donegal Volunteer Corps is a pilot project, (proposed to be) run jointly by Donegal Volunteer Centre and Donegal County Council.

3. How does it work?

Local not-for-profit organisations in Donegal will apply to the Donegal Volunteer Corps Office (in the Volunteer Centre) for the services of the Volunteer Corps. Once it has been established that the project has the necessary supports (including clear volunteering roles, insurance, co-ordinator), then the Volunteer Corps members will be contacted (by text and email) to inform them of an upcoming event. Once the Corps indicates their availability and willingness to participate, they will be informed of the venue, contact person, roles and times etc...

4. How can I apply for the Volunteer Corps for my project?

Your can register online directly by going to www.DonegalVolunteerCorps.com. Alternatively you can contact us at the Volunteer Centre for a hard copy of the application form. Our contact details are below.

5. What type of screening is involved in the Corps?

We will be taking up 2 written references for each member of the Corps. At the moment we do not envisage carrying out Garda Vetting of all Corps members as vetting should only be carried out if volunteers have sustained access to vulnerable adults and children. We envisage the projects just to be a few hours duration so there is no vetting in this instance.